



BC Fisheries Performance Plan 2000/2001

Ministry of Agriculture,
Food and Fisheries

DOC
BC
F5329
D:P4
2000/01
c.3

3c

FS329

D. P4

2000/01

C 3



In March 2000, The Ministry of Agriculture and Food and the Ministry of Fisheries were brought under the responsibility of one minister. Although the two organizations remain administratively separate, the new umbrella is the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries. This Performance Plan articulates the 2000/01 priorities, goals and objectives for BC Fisheries only. Agriculture and Food performance planning information is published separately.

To obtain additional copies of BC Fisheries Performance Plan 2000/01, please contact:
Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries

BC Fisheries

780 Blanshard Street

P.O. Box 9359 Stn Prov Govt

Victoria, B.C. V8W 9M2

Phone: (250) 356-5126

Fax: (250) 356-5160

The plan is also available on the ministry's website at www.bcfisheries.gov.bc.ca

To obtain a copy of the Agriculture and Food 2000/01 Performance Plan, please contact:
Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries

808 Douglas Street

P.O. Box 9120 Stn Prov Govt

Victoria, B.C. V8W 9B4

Phone: (250) 387-5121

Fax: (250) 387-5130

The plan is also available on the ministry's website at www.agf.gov.bc.ca

Canadian Cataloguing in Publication Data

BC Fisheries.

BC Fisheries performance plan. - 2000/2001-

Annual.

ISSN 1492-4714 = BC Fisheries performance plan

1. BC Fisheries - Periodicals. 2. Fishery policy
- British Columbia - Periodicals. 3. Fisheries -
British Columbia - Periodicals. I. Title.

SH224.B7B74 354.57'0971105 C00-960196-1

Table of Contents

MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER	1
INTRODUCTION	2
VISION	3
MISSION	3
VALUES AND PRINCIPLES	3
VALUES	3
PRINCIPLES	3
LEGISLATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES	4
BC FISHERIES ORGANIZATION	6
SETTING THE SCENE	7
THE NATURE OF THE RESOURCE	7
CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC SIGNIFICANCE	7
WHO DOES WHAT: FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL JURISDICTION	9
AGREEMENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS WITH OTHER AGENCIES	9
ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN	12
CHALLENGES FACING BC FISHERIES IN 2000/01	12
OPPORTUNITIES FOR BC FISHERIES IN 2000/01	13
GOALS, OBJECTIVES, STRATEGIES AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES ...	14
GOALS	14
OBJECTIVES, STRATEGIES AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES	14
LINK TO GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES	26
RESOURCE LINKAGES	28
BC FISHERIES OFFICES	29

Message from the Minister



B.C.'s fisheries are a \$2-billion industry created by hard-working British Columbians in commercial and recreational fisheries, finfish and shellfish aquaculture, seafood processing and value-added products. Traditional fisheries are in decline, but the industry's value is stable because British Columbians are creating new jobs and opportunities in diversified fisheries.

BC Fisheries supports provincial fisheries through conservation programs, sustainable fisheries, and effective partnerships with First Nations, coastal and rural communities, industry, environmental groups, municipal governments and the federal government.

Conservation of native fish populations and their habitats is the foundation of all our activities. We must conserve the biological base of fisheries because of their innate value and to maintain a resource for sustainable development. Conservation each year protects the diversity of wild stocks and preserves fisheries for long-term growth. The province invests \$150 million annually in habitat conservation, restoration and enhancement.

While emphasizing our commitment to restore wild fisheries, we recognize that many coastal and rural communities have suffered from the decline of traditional salmon fisheries. This performance plan focuses on growth opportunities for those communities through shellfish aquaculture, salmon aquaculture, freshwater initiatives, new species, processing and value-added products. These environmentally friendly, sustainable industries offer new prospects for business, jobs and prosperity in rural and coastal communities.

Before any fisheries initiative proceeds, staff consult with First Nations, communities, industry, municipalities, commercial and recreational fishers and environmental groups. They help shape and guide the scope and direction of emerging and new fisheries. Sound and informed decision making comes from these consultations. We learn what each community wants.

Increasingly, British Columbians are taking control of their fisheries by seizing new development and diversification opportunities. My ministry is there to facilitate discussions, offer technical advice and help find solutions.

We still need federal participation. I am pleased we are developing a good working relationship with the federal government, based on co-operation – not confrontation. British Columbians deserve their fair share of support from the federal government and we are committed to getting it.

Finally, fast-changing fisheries need tools to speed communications, information sharing and dialogue. We are developing an Internet site that will serve anglers, businesses, commercial fishers, and everyone else with a vested interest in B.C.'s fisheries. Fast-growing fisheries in a fast-changing world deserve nothing less.

We will continue to report to you on our progress.

Corky Evans

Minister of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
and Minister Responsible for Rural Development

Introduction

The fish resource and the fisheries that they sustain are a dynamic and significant component of life in British Columbia, affecting communities and rural areas throughout the province.

The dependence of communities on a few commercially harvested species is evolving to include a broader base of species and activities including: aquaculture, sport fishing, and value-added processing. All of these activities contribute to a vibrant, self-sufficient and sustainable industry in coastal communities and rural areas.

BC Fisheries' strategy is based on two key priorities: industry development and diversification, and resource management. Agency staff ensure that the fisheries and aquaculture sectors benefit from the efficient allocation of ministry and other resources. *BC Fisheries'* efforts are defined in the following goals:

- ▲ Conservation of native fish populations and their habitats.
- ▲ Developed and diversified commercial, aquaculture, seafood processing and recreational fisheries.
- ▲ Prosperous communities in rural areas supported by the commercial, aquaculture, seafood processing and recreational fisheries.
- ▲ Sound and informed fisheries management decisions.

There are a number of key initiatives that *BC Fisheries* has undertaken in order to meet these goals. These initiatives include:

1. The Salmon Aquaculture Policy
2. The Shellfish Development Initiative
3. The Inland Sport-fish Development Initiative
4. Development and diversification of underutilized species and value-added processing.
5. Addressing conservation of the fisheries resource through programs such as the Urban Salmon Habitat Program and fisheries projects funded through the Habitat Conservation Trust Fund.

An integrated approach to policy development and program design is the best way to make sure that operational decisions produce the intended advantageous results. Industry and government are working together to pursue this goal through the leadership of this provincial agency.

There are significant challenges and opportunities for industry development and diversification and for resource management. Despite the focus on declining salmon harvests in the late 1990s, the industry has diversified to include more than 80 seafood products up from 24 in 1980. Aquaculture, sport fishing, and value-added processing are key contributors to a diversified industry. This variety in product and activity provides resiliency and stability in a cyclical industry. Increased knowledge about fish and their habitat provides guidance for conservation management and harvesting plans.

This performance plan is geared to results and is committed to the principles of accountability and performance measurement.

Vision

Healthy and diverse fish populations, productive fish habitats and sustainable fisheries.

Mission

To build and sustain diverse and healthy fish populations and a diversified and sustainable fishery for the benefit of all British Columbians.

Values and Principles

Values

The following values outline the fundamental beliefs of *BC Fisheries* and describe how the organization and its employees interact with clients and each other. *BC Fisheries* will conduct its business in a manner that is:

Fair and Equitable – adopting a leadership role in the decision-making process that recognizes a diversity of views and values;

Responsible and Accountable – emphasizing responsible use of government resources and transparency in accounting for the use of those resources;

Responsive – responding to the needs of staff, fisheries sector groups and communities in a timely and courteous manner; and

Co-operative – promoting teamwork, good working relationships, and effective partnerships with and co-operation among all orders of government, First Nations, fisheries sector groups and communities.

Principles

BC Fisheries is committed to the following principles in the management of fish, fish habitat and the fisheries both in its own activities and in the co-ordination and support of the activities and programs of other agencies:

Conservation – ensuring the conservation of native fish and their habitat, including wetlands and riparian areas, and ultimately the conservation and maintenance of genetic and ecosystem biodiversity;

Precautionary Approach – applying the precautionary approach to the conservation, management and use of aquatic resources in order to protect fish and the aquatic environment;

Sustainable Use – ensuring the sustainable use of fish species in order to meet the needs of present and future generations;

First Nations Rights – recognizing and respecting the aboriginal and treaty rights of First Nations; and

Capacity Building – providing the mechanisms to ensure sustainable self-sufficient communities in rural areas.

Legislative Responsibilities

BC Fisheries is directly responsible for the administration of the following legislation:

Fisheries Act

The Act provides for the regulation of activities associated with commercial fisheries and aquaculture operations, and the licensing of: fish-processing plants; fish-buying establishments; fishermen selling their own catch; marine plant harvesting; and aquaculture operations within the province.

Fish Inspection Act

The Act ensures quality and wholesomeness in the fish industry by providing the authority to regulate activities concerning the handling, processing, storing, grading, packaging, marking, transporting, marketing and inspection of fish and fish products. The regulations ensure that fish processed and sold within British Columbia have met specific requirements.

Fisheries Renewal Act

The Act provides for the establishment of a Crown corporation – Fisheries Renewal BC – for the purpose of undertaking strategic initiatives to renew the fisheries and enhance fish, fisheries and fish habitat in British Columbia.

BC Fisheries is also responsible for the administration of the following legislation as it relates to fish or aquatic plants:

Animal Disease Control Act

The Act provides statutory authority to limit the spread of contagious diseases in animals, including aquatic animals.

Farm Practices Protection (Right to Farm) Act

This Act protects farmers in the Agricultural Land Reserve or aquaculture sites from nuisance lawsuits, nuisance bylaws and prohibitive injunctions if they are using standard farming practices.

Farming and Fishing Industries Development Act

The purpose of this Act is to enable producers of commodities of the farming and fishing industries to collect levies approved by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council. The Salmon Marketing Council Regulation under this Act allows a council representing salmon harvesters to collect levies for the promotion and marketing of their products.

Wildlife Act

The Act provides authority for the issuance of non-tidal angling licences, permits, private fishpond licences, the regulation of the angling guide industry, and the conservation and preservation of fish stocks via the management of habitat.

Other fish and fisheries-related legislation:

Fish Protection Act

The Act is administered by the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks; however, it includes significant implications for the protection of the province's fisheries resource including: ensuring water for fish in water allocation decisions; protecting and restoring fish populations; focusing on riparian protection and enhancement, and strengthening local environmental planning.

Federal Fisheries Act

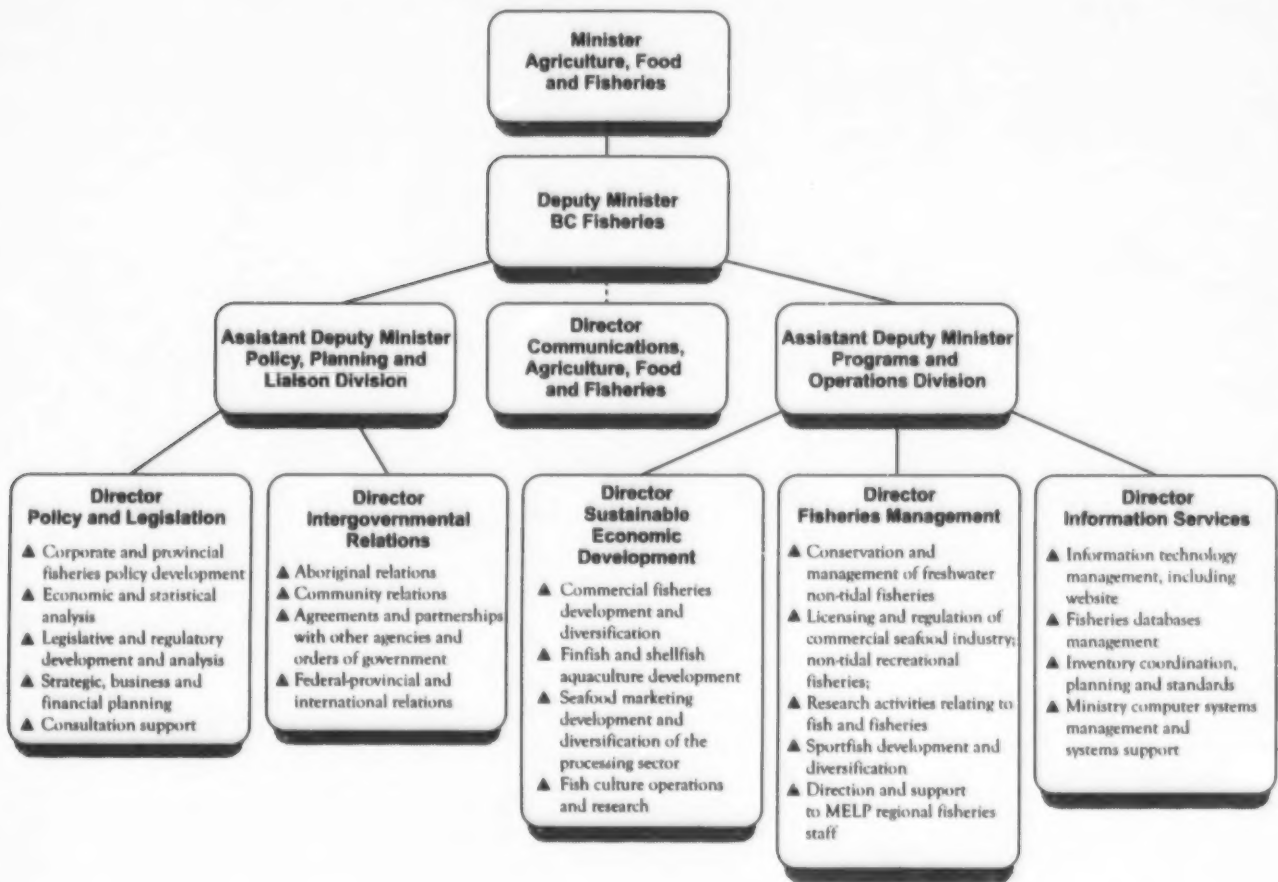
The ministry exercises delegated authority under the federal *Fisheries Act* for the management of all non-salmon fish species within non-tidal waters of the province.

Proposed Federal Species-at-Risk Act

The federal government has introduced the *Species-at-Risk Act* to prevent wild species in Canada from becoming extinct due to human activities. It will apply to federal departments and agencies, lands including water, species, subspecies, biologically distinct populations, plants and animals including freshwater and tidal fish species and their habitats.

The main thrust of the legislation will be the establishment of a federal safety net, which will include a prohibition against any activities that adversely affect a federally listed species. This mechanism may be invoked by the Minister's Council or the federal minister alone where a jurisdiction is unable or unwilling to enact these protective measures.

Organization Chart-BC Fisheries



Setting the Scene

The Nature of the Resource

British Columbia has a remarkably diverse and valuable freshwater fisheries resource that is unique in the world. The tremendous amount of aquatic biodiversity today is not at the species level, for British Columbia has relatively few fish species, but at the population level within each species. As the ice sheets receded during the last ice age, newly formed lakes and rivers provided novel habitats and opportunities for recolonizing fish. The result is thousands of populations that are uniquely adapted to different environments.

B.C.'s marine environments are some of the most beautiful and productive in the world. Fed by upwelling ocean currents, they provide a complex of habitats from estuaries, steep rocky inter-tidal areas and tidal flats, to deep underwater gorges to the vast continental shelf. These diverse areas host an array of marine species that make up a large part of our natural heritage.

BC Fisheries has a leadership role in managing and sustaining British Columbia's diverse and valuable freshwater fisheries resource. The priority is to ensure the conservation of native freshwater fish populations and their habitats. To accomplish this priority, *BC Fisheries* works closely with the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks.

We also work closely with Fisheries and Oceans Canada to protect anadromous salmon and their freshwater habitat, and other marine species.

Our emphasis on protecting wild fish stocks goes beyond popular game fish such as trout, char and land-locked kokanee salmon which represent only 23 of the 96 species of freshwater fish in British Columbia. In total, the survival of 36 freshwater fish species is at risk and 20 species occur nowhere else in Canada. A number of Fisheries Program research and conservation activities have been established to improve our understanding and protection of these species at risk. *BC Fisheries* is committed to protecting all native fish species as part of our natural heritage as they are all equally important in maintaining aquatic biodiversity.

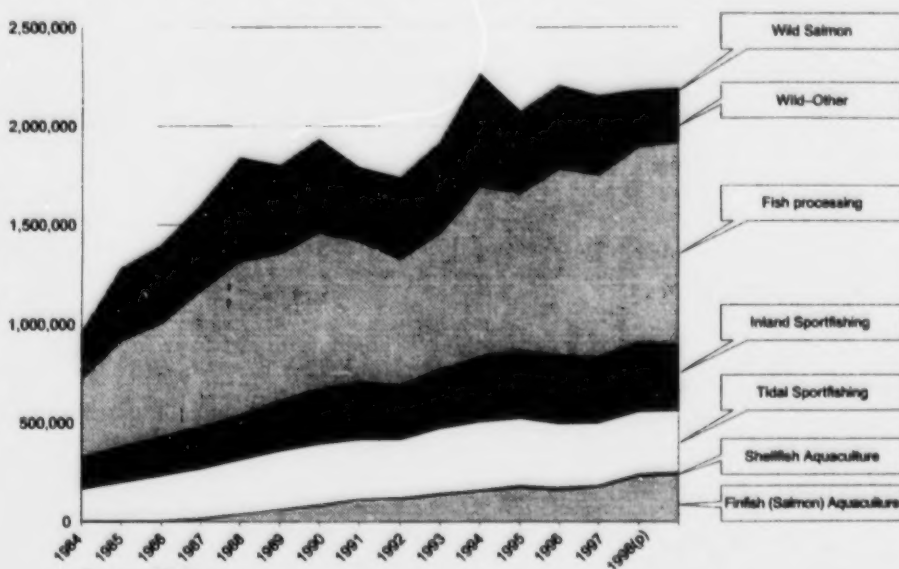
Cultural and Economic Significance

Fish-related activities, such as angling, seafood harvesting, or watching the annual pilgrimage of returning salmon, are a significant aspect of life in British Columbia. Salmon and other species play an important role in the culture of First Nations history and traditions. This importance is enshrined in the allowance for First Nations harvest for food, ceremonial and cultural reasons.

European settlers established the commercial fishery on seemingly endless populations of salmon, and delivered canned product to export markets. In more recent years, recreational fishing opportunities have become increasingly important, as have the aquaculture industry, commercial harvests of other species and value-added processing. The fisheries sector has four principal components: wild harvest, seafood processing,

sport fishing—both inland and tidal—and aquaculture. In 1999, the sector contributed more than \$2 billion in revenues to the provincial economy. This is more than double the revenue of \$958 million in 1984. Much of the economic activity associated with the sector is located in rural communities. The inland sport-fish component is spread throughout the rural interior while the rest of the activity occurs in communities up and down the coast.

Figure 1: Fisheries Sector Revenues by Major Group (\$000s) 1984-1999 (est)



More than 80 species of finfish, shellfish and marine plants are grown, harvested and marketed by B.C.'s seafood industry. The industry is highly cyclical as landings vary with fluctuations in stocks of individual species coupled with fluctuations in global markets. Oceanographic conditions along the province's coastline create an ideal setting for the cultivation of finfish, primarily farmed salmon, and shellfish.

A large portion of output from the processing and aquaculture sectors is exported, generating a trade surplus of about \$500 million a year in commodities. Similarly, expenditures in British Columbia by non-Canadian anglers are another source of international revenue.

There are currently about 13,000 people employed in the sector. It is difficult to provide exact estimates of the numbers of people employed in the fisheries and aquaculture sector because of the seasonal nature of some of the work, difficulty in measuring this employment, and significant employment losses associated with salmon conservation measures.

Who Does What: Federal and Provincial Jurisdiction

In Canada, responsibility for the fisheries is shared by the federal and provincial governments. Management of the fishery is complex and requires that the parties involved work co-operatively to ensure that the fish resource is managed in a manner that provides sustainable benefits for all British Columbians.

Constitutionally, the federal government has authority over the management of both seacoast and inland fisheries, including aboriginal fisheries. Fisheries and Oceans Canada exercises this authority through the federal *Fisheries Act*. Pursuant to this Act, responsibility for the management of the non-tidal recreational fishery has been delegated to the province. British Columbia is responsible for the regulation of business within the province. The province regulates fish buying, vending and processing activities. The federal government is responsible for the regulation of export trade and ensures all fish-processing activities for export products meet federal standards. British Columbia regulates the aquaculture business and, by virtue of its ownership of provincial lands, issues and manages Crown tenures required for aquaculture operations. The province also has responsibility for the management of aquatic plants and, by agreement with the federal government, the management of the oyster fishery.

Due to the shared responsibility in these and other areas related to the sound management of Pacific fisheries, the province and the federal government have entered into several formal and informal agreements and arrangements to promote co-operation and co-ordination in the delivery of our respective mandates.

Among provincial agencies, management of fish habitat and the freshwater fishery is carried out by *BC Fisheries* and the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks.

Agreements and Partnerships with Other Agencies

BC Fisheries takes a proactive role through formal and informal arrangements with the federal government, other provincial agencies and communities to ensure that our vision and mandate are met. Some of the more significant arrangements include:

Fisheries Renewal BC - Established under provincial legislation, this Crown Corporation is a key investment agency for the renewal of the fisheries in B.C. through strategic funding of projects to benefit fish populations and habitat, development and diversification of fisheries and products and strengthening planning and partnerships to create jobs within the sector. *FsRBC* reports to the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries and expects to invest \$7.3 million in 2000/01 on projects in four areas: Salmonid Renewal (\$4 million); Development and Diversification (\$2 million); Original Renewal Ideas (e.g. education, research, innovation) (\$1 million); and the Planning and Partnership program (\$0.3 million).

Habitat Conservation Trust Fund (HTCF) - In co-operation with the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks the trust fund provides about \$2.5 million annual funding for a wide range of fisheries projects, including research, rehabilitation,

inventory and education and projects. The majority of HTCF funding comes from a surcharge on hunting and freshwater sport fishing licences. *BC Fisheries* provides guidance in the selection and implementation of the projects funded by HTCF.

Urban Salmon Habitat Program (UHSP)- In co-operation with the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks, the USHP provides about \$0.9 million annually for local government and community stewardship groups in the Georgia Basin to undertake activities to protect salmon spawning and rearing habitat.

Canada - B.C. Agreement on the Management of Pacific Salmon Fishery Issues - Creates a partnership between the federal and provincial government in the management of the Pacific salmon fishery. Pursuant to this agreement, the ministry will provide ongoing input to Fisheries and Oceans Canada on policies for the management of the Pacific salmon resource.

Memorandum of Understanding on Fisheries and Seafood Diversification - This agreement between the federal and provincial government establishes an orderly approach to the development of sustainable commercial fishing opportunities through the creation of partnerships between government and stakeholders.

Canada - B.C. Memorandum of Understanding on Aquaculture Development - This agreement between the federal and provincial government advances the orderly growth and development of the aquaculture industry in B.C. and clarifies the respective roles of Canada and B.C.

Ministry of Fisheries and Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks Letter of Understanding on Fisheries Programs - This agreement establishes joint management of fisheries activities and programs under provincial jurisdiction. The agreement sets out the responsibilities of the two agencies with respect to fisheries policy, procedures, legislation and the delivery of fisheries programs.

B.C. - Aboriginal Fisheries Commission Letter of Agreement on Fisheries Information Exchange - This agreement between the provincial government and the Aboriginal Fisheries Commission provides a process for information exchange on legislative, policy and program initiatives relating to fish, fisheries and fish habitat issues.

Strategic Partnerships

Development and Diversification	Conservation and Fisheries Management	First Nations	Rural Opportunities
Fisheries Renewal BC Fisheries and Oceans Canada BC Salmon Marketing Council BC Shellfish Growers Association BC Salmon Farmers Association Sport Fishing Advisory Board BC Seafood Sector Council Seafood Sector Alliance B.C. Assets and Land Corporation Canada/B.C. Council of Fisheries Ministers Ministry of Small Business Tourism and Culture Ministry of Community Development, Co-operatives and Volunteers Tourism BC	Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks Fisheries Renewal BC Forest Renewal BC BC Hydro Habitat Conservation Trust Fund Fisheries and Oceans Canada Union of British Columbia Municipalities Land Use Coordination Office Ministry of Forests BC Conservation Foundation	Aboriginal Fisheries Commission Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs Nisga'a Treaty Fisheries and Oceans Canada	Coastal Communities Network Union of BC Municipalities Ministry of Community Development, Co-operatives and Volunteers B.C. Assets and Land Corporation Fisheries and Oceans Canada Ministry of Small Business, Tourism and Culture Western Economic Diversification Community Futures Development Corp. Community Fisheries Development Centres Rural Development Office

Environmental Scan

The fisheries resource in British Columbia faces significant challenges from climate change, habitat degradation and loss, and harvesting pressures that demand management attention. Against this backdrop, the fisheries are evolving. Traditional fisheries are diversifying to a broader range of species and seafood products, new and underutilized species are being harvested, value-added processing and specialty products are emerging to meet global market demands.

BC Fisheries has a leadership role in fostering viable, sustainable self-sufficient fisheries in partnership with industry, communities and stakeholders which will provide certainty and stability to individuals and communities that rely on fisheries. There are four major challenges:

1. Prices and demand dictated by global markets.
2. Competition with other world suppliers and matching the development of seafood products with consumer preferences.
3. More severe fluctuations in species cycles and changes in species composition from environmental changes (e.g. climate change, habitat, etc.), and international harvest agreements.
4. Heightened public understanding and awareness of environmental and conservation issues leading to shifts in purchasing behaviour and lifestyle choices.

Challenges facing BC Fisheries in 2000/01

- ▲ continuing pressures on fish stocks from changing environmental conditions;
- ▲ an extremely poor outlook for the 2000 salmon season;
- ▲ working co-operatively with federal and provincial agencies to address restructuring of the salmon fishery;
- ▲ securing equitable access to migratory stocks, (e.g. salmon, hake and tuna);
- ▲ continuing distress in coastal fishing communities due to the rapid changes to the salmon fishery and other resource-based industries;
- ▲ continuing threats to fish habitat from land use, urbanization and pollution;
- ▲ continuing to provide quality seafood products in the face of increased concern about environmental and conservation measures;
- ▲ providing a stable business climate and secure resource tenures for sport fishing business; and
- ▲ retaining global market share for seafood despite declining salmon harvest.

Opportunities for BC Fisheries in 2000/01

- ▲ using the *BC Fisheries*' website and other information technology to provide:
 - greater access to information regarding the fish resource, its habitat and the fishery;
 - increased responsiveness and greater interaction between *BC Fisheries* and First Nations, coastal and rural communities, industry, environmental groups and municipal and federal governments; and
 - enhanced delivery of *BC Fisheries* programs.
- ▲ providing access to extensive biophysical database and fisheries statistics to increase knowledge of fish and sport fishing in B.C.;
- ▲ expanding the shellfish aquaculture industry by streamlining access to increased land base under the Shellfish Development Initiative;
- ▲ providing a stable regulatory framework for the Salmon Aquaculture industry and encouraging new technology to meet environmental concerns;
- ▲ identifying and developing freshwater angling opportunities in rural areas through the Inland Sport-fish Development Initiative;
- ▲ expanding knowledge of key target markets to improve competitive performance in both the seafood and sport-fishing sectors;
- ▲ expanding global markets for high-quality and sustainable seafood products leading to the revitalization of the fisheries sector;
- ▲ enhancing product loyalty, and responding to changing consumer preferences;
- ▲ diversifying the range of seafood products and sport-fish opportunities, to establish premium products which command higher prices, and a reputation as a world-class sport-fish destination;
- ▲ using our research and hatchery capacity to support conservation objectives; and
- ▲ capitalizing on sale and promotion of new technologies and practices adopted in response to increased environmental concerns.

Goals, Objectives, Strategies and Performance Measures

Goals

- ▲ Conservation of native fish populations and their habitats.
- ▲ Developed and diversified commercial, aquaculture, seafood processing and recreational fisheries.
- ▲ Prosperous communities in rural areas supported by the commercial, aquaculture, seafood processing and recreational fisheries.
- ▲ Sound and informed fisheries management decisions.

Objectives, Strategies and Performance Measures

Goal 1: Conservation of native fish populations and their habitats.

Objectives	Strategies
Protect and rehabilitate native fish populations to conserve the full range of biodiversity values.	Work co-operatively with the Habitat Conservation Trust Fund by: ▲ leading the technical review process for annual budget allocation; and ▲ developing, implementing and reporting on specific stock conservation projects. Undertake measures to identify, protect and recover species at risk by: ▲ developing and implementing stock status assessments (Fraser sturgeon); ▲ conducting research on biodiversity (bull trout and cutthroat trout); ▲ implementing pilot recovery programs (e.g. Vancouver Island steelhead gene banking, Okanagan Lake Action Plan, <i>Fish Protection Act</i>); and ▲ participating in species at risk committees and processes (Conservation Data Centre, the federal <i>Species at Risk Act</i> implementation).

Goal 1: Conservation of native fish populations and their habitats.

Objectives	Strategies
	Co-ordinate the collection and management of province-wide data on wild fish populations and provide map-based information on species distribution and abundance for government agencies, researchers, stakeholders and the public.
	Lead the development of policy and guidelines to practically define conservation objectives for freshwater fisheries management purposes and to establish management plans for selected stocks based on these policies and guidelines.
	Establish management plans to guide the sustainable harvest of oysters and marine plants.
	Co-ordinate with Fisheries Renewal BC to ensure effective utilization of funding by: ▲ advising on priority activities; ▲ providing technical advice; and ▲ developing provincial standards and guidelines for stewardship and recovery activities.
	Provide input to federal and provincial legislation and lead development of ministry legislation that supports the protection and rehabilitation of native fish populations.

Goal 1: Conservation of native fish populations and their habitats.

Objectives	Strategies
Protect and rehabilitate habitat to conserve the productive capacity of aquatic ecosystems.	Co-ordinate the delivery of the Urban Salmon Habitat Program in the Georgia Basin through Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks regional offices.
	Work co-operatively with the Habitat Conservation Trust Fund to: ▲ lead the technical review process for annual budget allocation; and ▲ develop, implement and report on specific habitat restoration and enhancement projects.
	Provide technical fisheries input into provincial and federal land, marine and resource use planning processes.
	Co-ordinate the collection and management of province-wide fish habitat data and provide map-based information on habitat characteristics at the watershed and sub-watershed level for government agencies, researchers, stakeholders and the public.
	Co-ordinate the Forest Renewal BC Fish and Fish Habitat Inventory Program to ensure inventory data are readily available for forestry planning and related processes.
	Provide policy direction and technical support for the development and implementation of BC Hydro compensation programs.
	Implement habitat protection components of the <i>Canada-B.C. Agreement on the Management of Pacific Salmon Fishery Issues</i> including: ▲ the Canada-B.C. Habitat Protection Agreement; ▲ analysis of federal and provincial habitat regimes; and ▲ watershed based fish sustainability planning.

**IMPORTANT NOTE CONCERNING THE FOLLOWING
PAGES**

**THE PAGES WHICH FOLLOW HAVE BEEN FILMED
TWICE IN ORDER TO OBTAIN THE BEST
REPRODUCTIVE QUALITY**

**USERS SHOULD CONSULT ALL THE PAGES
REPRODUCED ON THE FICHE IN ORDER TO OBTAIN
A COMPLETE READING OF THE TEXT.**

**REMARQUE IMPORTANTE CONCERNANT LES
PAGES QUI SUIVENT**

**LES PAGES SUIVANTES ONT ÉTÉ REPRODUITES EN
DOUBLE AFIN D'AMÉLIORER LA QUALITÉ DE
REPRODUCTION**

**LES UTILISATEURS DOIVENT CONSULTER TOUTES
LES PAGES REPRODUITES SUR LA FICHE AFIN
D'OBTENIR LA LECTURE DU TEXTE INTÉGRAL**

Goal 1: Conservation of native fish populations and their habitats.**Objectives**

Protect and restore water quality and quantity for fish.

Strategies

Lead fisheries participation in the provincial Water Use Planning Program process to ensure adequate benefits to fish are achieved through modifications to BC Hydro water licences.

Provide technical input for implementation of the *Fish Protection Act* including:

- ▲ the designation of sensitive streams;
- ▲ development of fish recovery plans on sensitive streams;
- ▲ general stream regulation;
- ▲ streamside directives; and
- ▲ debris regulations.

Provide direction and advice on in-stream flow requirements for fish when significant new water withdrawals or diversions are proposed.

Performance Measures for Goal 1

- ▲ Recovery plans for species at risk, including Vancouver Island steelhead, Okanagan kokanee, Columbia sturgeon and Nechako sturgeon, developed and implemented.
- ▲ A conservation policy for steelhead management signed off and implemented.
- ▲ Recommendations of the five-year Urban Salmon Habitat Program evaluation reviewed and implemented.
- ▲ Final phase of the Field Data Information System for fish and fish habitat inventory data completed.

Goal 1: Conservation of native fish populations and their habitats.

Objectives	Strategies
Protect and restore water quality and quantity for fish.	Lead fisheries participation in the provincial Water Use Planning Program process to ensure adequate benefits to fish are achieved through modifications to BC Hydro water licences. Provide technical input for implementation of the <i>Fish Protection Act</i> including: ▲ the designation of sensitive streams; ▲ development of fish recovery plans on sensitive streams; ▲ general stream regulation; ▲ streamside directives; and ▲ debris regulations. Provide direction and advice on in-stream flow requirements for fish when significant new water withdrawals or diversions are proposed.

Performance Measures for Goal 1

- ▲ Recovery plans for species at risk, including: Vancouver Island steelhead, Okanagan kokanee, Columbia sturgeon and Nechako sturgeon, developed and implemented.
- ▲ A conservation policy for steelhead management signed off and implemented.
- ▲ Recommendations of the five-year Urban Salmon Habitat Program evaluation reviewed and implemented.
- ▲ Final phase of the Field Data Information System for fish and fish habitat inventory data completed.

Goal 2: Developed and diversified commercial, aquaculture, seafood processing and recreational fisheries.

Objectives	Strategies
Encourage a competitive industry in domestic and global markets.	Conduct risk and issue assessments to identify and address industry competitiveness to ensure economic viability.
	Deliver extension services including performance planning, technology transfer, quality and production management, research and development to the processing sector.
	Provide resource and production information for use by industry and clients for planning, marketing and industry development.
	Support negotiation of more favourable fisheries trade agreements (World Trade Organization-Australia).
Expand and diversify the commercial and seafood processing sectors.	Implement the <i>Federal-Provincial Memorandum of Understanding on Fisheries and Seafood Development and Diversification</i> to provide new fisheries and seafood development and diversification opportunities.
	Create new commercial fisheries opportunities through the development of new fisheries and improvement to existing fisheries (e.g. new species or more efficient uses of existing species).
	Participate in negotiation of international catch sharing arrangements to maintain or increase B.C.'s share of the resource.
	Participate in negotiation of treaties to provide greater certainty of allocation processes and to ensure resource sustainability.
	Support the development of new technologies within the processing sector that increase value of seafood products.

Goal 2: Developed and diversified commercial, aquaculture, seafood processing and recreational fisheries.

Objectives	Strategies
	Support marketing of seafood products by: ▲ encouraging and implementing market research, and product-market match; and ▲ expanding role of the BC Salmon Marketing Council and BC Seafood Council. Manage the licensing and regulation of fish buyers, brokers, vendors and processors to ensure that health, economic and social objectives are met.
Develop finfish aquaculture to provide opportunities for economic development in coastal communities, including First Nations.	Implementation of the new Salmon Aquaculture Policy to ensure a viable environmentally sustainable industry by: ▲ developing and implementing an action plan to relocate poorly sited farms; ▲ implementing the Salmon Aquaculture Industry Advisory Committee; ▲ strengthening the inspection and enforcement program; ▲ developing new monitoring standards; ▲ implementing escape prevention measures; and ▲ implementing closed containment pilot projects to test new technologies.
Develop shellfish aquaculture to provide opportunities for economic development in coastal communities, including First Nations.	Implement the Shellfish Development Initiative by: ▲ doubling the amount of land available for shellfish aquaculture; ▲ streamlining the referral process; ▲ developing utilization standards and a policy for diligent use; and ▲ developing new higher-value cultured species.

Goal 2: Developed and diversified commercial, aquaculture, seafood processing and recreational fisheries.

Objectives	Strategies
Develop the recreational fishery to optimize social, cultural and economic benefits.	Develop and implement the Inland Sport-fish Development Initiative to increase and diversify angling opportunities on small lakes. Review the Angling Guide Management System and Classified Waters Policy to evaluate government's role in managing the freshwater guiding industry and develop ways to improve management of classified waters. Continue to support management and development of the sport fishery with industry involvement through: ▲ developing a vision and strategic plan for B.C.'s freshwater recreational fishery; ▲ managing B.C.'s freshwater stocking program; ▲ completing B.C. Stats economic impact survey for the tidal and freshwater sport fishing sectors; ▲ managing licensing and regulatory regime for anglers and angling guides; and ▲ identifying and marketing new development opportunities.
Help build fisheries and aquaculture sectors that meet high environmental and industry standards to ensure public and market confidence in the industry.	Implement an aquaculture compliance and enforcement strategy. Deliver Aquaculture Licensing Program through site appraisals and assessments, consultation and review of development plans and application referrals. Implement legislative and regulatory amendments to improve environmental safeguards regarding aquaculture, including an escapes protocol with Washington State. Support industry efforts to understand and respond to market demand (e.g. eco-labeling).

**IMPORTANT NOTE CONCERNING THE FOLLOWING
PAGES**

**THE PAGES WHICH FOLLOW HAVE BEEN FILMED
TWICE IN ORDER TO OBTAIN THE BEST
REPRODUCTIVE QUALITY**

**USERS SHOULD CONSULT ALL THE PAGES
REPRODUCED ON THE FICHE IN ORDER TO OBTAIN
A COMPLETE READING OF THE TEXT.**

**REMARQUE IMPORTANTE CONCERNANT LES
PAGES QUI SUIVENT**

**LES PAGES SUIVANTES ONT ÉTÉ REPRODUITES EN
DOUBLE AFIN D'AMÉLIORER LA QUALITÉ DE
REPRODUCTION**

**LES UTILISATEURS DOIVENT CONSULTER TOUTES
LES PAGES REPRODUITES SUR LA FICHE AFIN
D'OBTENIR LA LECTURE DU TEXTE INTÉGRAL**

Goal 2: Developed and diversified commercial, aquaculture, seafood processing and recreational fisheries.

Performance Measures for Goal 2

- ▲ Phase one of the Inland Sport-fish Development Initiative implemented, including identification of business development, diversification and marketing opportunities.
- ▲ The following phases of the Salmon Aquaculture Policy implemented:
 - 10 poorly sited salmon aquaculture operations released;
 - five closed containment pilots initiated;
 - enforcement and compliance strategy implemented;
 - new aquaculture management plan implemented;
 - annual fish health report produced.
- ▲ Area under shellfish aquaculture tenure increased by 10 per cent.
- ▲ The Angling Guide Management and Classified Waters Review completed.

Goal 3: Prosperous communities in rural areas supported by commercial, aquaculture, seafood processing and recreational fisheries.

Objectives	Strategies
Develop and diversify the economic base of communities in rural areas.	Implement the Industry and Community Development provision of <i>Canada-B.C. Agreement on the Management of Pacific Salmon Fishery Issues</i> .
	Continue support for the Seafood Industry Co-ordinator in Prince Rupert and for North and Central coast industry development projects.
	Work co-operatively with federal agencies to secure adequate transition and adjustment measures.
	Work with the Rural Development Office to identify fisheries projects or initiatives that support economic growth in rural areas.
	Work co-operatively with provincial agencies and local governments to meet community and First Nations needs.

Goal 2: Developed and diversified commercial, aquaculture, seafood processing and recreational fisheries.

Performance Measures for Goal 2

- ▲ Phase one of the Inland Sport-fish Development Initiative implemented; including identification of business development, diversification and marketing opportunities.
- ▲ The following phases of the Salmon Aquaculture Policy implemented:
 - 10 poorly sited salmon aquaculture operations relocated;
 - five closed containment pilots initiated;
 - enforcement and compliance strategy implemented;
 - new aquaculture management plan implemented;
 - annual fish health report produced.
- ▲ Area under shellfish aquaculture tenure increased by 10 per cent.
- ▲ The Angling Guide Management and Classified Waters Review completed.

Goal 3: Prosperous communities in rural areas supported by commercial, aquaculture, seafood processing and recreational fisheries.

Objectives	Strategies
Develop and diversify the economic base of communities in rural areas.	Implement the Industry and Community Development provision of <i>Canada-B.C. Agreement on the Management of Pacific Salmon Fishery Issues</i> .
	Continue support for the Seafood Industry Co-ordinator in Prince Rupert and for North and Central coast industry development projects.
	Work co-operatively with federal agencies to secure adequate transition and adjustment measures.
	Work with the Rural Development Office to identify fisheries projects or initiatives that support economic growth in rural areas.
	Work co-operatively with provincial agencies and local governments to meet community and First Nations needs.

Goal 3: Prosperous communities in rural areas supported by commercial, aquaculture, seafood processing and recreational fisheries.

Objectives	Strategies
Identify and develop opportunities for communities to influence the allocation of the fisheries resource.	Identification of sport-fishing business opportunities.
	Support development of a federal/provincial Licence, Sanction and Allocation Board for the wild salmon fishery.
	Develop a salmon farm relocation and remediation strategy for existing tenures under the Salmon Aquaculture Policy.
Increase local involvement in resource allocation and planning.	Implement a community-based planning process for shellfish aquaculture.
	Implement partnerships with communities and First Nations in rural areas which benefit fish and fisheries through: ▲ supporting community forums (e.g. Coastal Communities Network, Union of BC Municipalities, Native Brotherhood of BC); ▲ fostering community management and stewardship initiatives; and ▲ assisting local governments and First Nations.
	Provide capacity building and skills development workshops and information.

Performance Measures for Goal 3

- ▲ Opportunities for seafood processing, aquaculture, and recreational fishing activities increased in rural areas.
- ▲ Number and location of industry-related training workshops/sessions increased.
- ▲ Employment opportunities increased; including a lengthening of weeks worked and an increase in the proportion of full-year jobs.
- ▲ Initiative implemented for enhancing value-added processing and underutilized species in three to five communities.

Goal 3: Prosperous communities in rural areas supported by commercial, aquaculture, seafood processing and recreational fisheries.

Objectives	Strategies
Identify and develop opportunities for communities to influence the allocation of the fisheries resource.	Identification of sport-fishing business opportunities. Support development of a federal/provincial Licence, Sanction and Allocation Board for the wild salmon fishery. Develop a salmon farm relocation and remediation strategy for existing tenures under the Salmon Aquaculture Policy.
Increase local involvement in resource allocation and planning.	Implement a community-based planning process for shellfish aquaculture. Implement partnerships with communities and First Nations in rural areas which benefit fish and fisheries through: ▲ supporting community forums (e.g. Coastal Communities Network, Union of BC Municipalities, Native Brotherhood of BC); ▲ fostering community management and stewardship initiatives; and ▲ assisting local governments and First Nations. Provide capacity building and skills development workshops and information.



Goal 4: Sound and informed fisheries management decisions.

Objectives	Strategies
Effective working relationships with: ▲ All levels of government; ▲ Communities; ▲ First Nations; ▲ Industry; and ▲ Stakeholders.	Support the federal government in international negotiations and protocols concerning harvests and other shared interests. Strengthen relations with the federal government on areas of shared and co-operative responsibility including: ▲ implementing elements of the <i>Canada-B.C. Agreement on the Management of Pacific Salmon Fishery Issues</i>; ▲ supporting Canadian Council of Fisheries and Aquaculture Ministers (CCFAM); ▲ supporting and co-ordinating Task Groups under the <i>Interjurisdictional Co-operation Agreement</i>; and ▲ representing interests of the provincial government in transition and adjustment. Improve relations with other jurisdictions by negotiating agreements and protocols including: ▲ the Atlantic Farmed Salmon Escapes Protocol; ▲ the Nuisance Species Protocol; ▲ harmonization of Fishing Regulations and licensing under the British Columbia Yukon Accord; and ▲ implementation of the Pacific Salmon Treaty. Work co-operatively with Fisheries Renewal BC to ensure projects funded will provide information that enables government to make sound fisheries management decisions. Revitalize Memoranda of Understanding and Letters of Understanding with other provincial agencies to meet the needs of the fish resource, fisheries and communities in rural areas.

Goal 4: Sound and informed fisheries management decisions.

Objectives	Strategies
	Provide technical leadership to provincial agencies on fish and fisheries issues through participation in working groups and land and resource planning initiatives. Establish and implement partnerships with First Nations by: ▲ continuing to participate in Aboriginal Fisheries Commission; ▲ supporting and implementing fisheries components of treaties; and ▲ encouraging opportunities for involvement and employment. Provide technical support and work co-operatively with sector organizations to develop sustainable fisheries.
Improve information-sharing arrangements with staff, partners, clients and the public.	Participate in the Pacific Fisheries Resource Conservation Council. Enhance/support BC Aboriginal Fisheries Commission information-sharing agreement. Implement Canada-B.C. data-sharing agreements on habitat, stocks and fisheries management. Participate in, and contribute to fisheries data to cross-agency working groups.
Use <i>BC Fisheries</i> website and other information technology to enhance: ▲ access to information; ▲ interaction with partners, clients and the public; and ▲ fisheries program delivery.	Create and manage a <i>BC Fisheries</i> website that provides complete, up-to-date information on biophysical database and fisheries statistics. Equipping the <i>BC Fisheries</i> website to handle feedback from stakeholders and electronic services to clients (e.g. licence applications). Manage information technology to simplify the sharing and use of data.

Goal 4: Sound and informed fisheries management decisions.

Objectives	Strategies
Implement effective decision-making processes.	Lead development of provincial legislation and policy and provide input to federal legislation which supports the protection and rehabilitation of native fish populations and habitats, and orderly development of fisheries and aquaculture.
	Develop ministry's budget, strategic plan and performance plan to ensure that government priorities are reflected in the ministry's activities.
	Develop and implement community-based management initiatives (e.g., <i>Stewardship Act</i> , clam boards).
	Support the development of regional management boards.
	Complete and implement Delgamuukw consultation guidelines with respect to fisheries issues.
Maintain an effective organization by continuing to enhance staff skills, knowledge and abilities.	Enhance stakeholder involvement in decision-making processes (e.g. Sport Fish Advisory Board, freshwater fisheries consultation).
	Support staff training and professional development.
	Develop a workplace that provides opportunities for all, including persons with disabilities, aboriginal persons, visible minorities and women.

Performance Measures for Goal 4

- ▲ Reduced duplication and overlap in service delivery among various levels of government.
- ▲ Increased regional participation in managing the fisheries resource.
- ▲ Increased responsiveness and greater interaction between *BC Fisheries* and First Nations, coastal and rural communities, industry, environmental groups, and municipal and federal governments through an interactive *BC Fisheries* website.
- ▲ Initial entry of provincial data to the Fisheries Project Registry completed.

Goal 4: Sound and informed fisheries management decisions.

Objectives	Strategies
Implement effective decision-making processes.	Lead development of provincial legislation and policy and provide input to federal legislation which supports the protection and rehabilitation of native fish populations and habitats, and orderly development of fisheries and aquaculture.
	Develop ministry's budget, strategic plan and performance plan to ensure that government priorities are reflected in the ministry's activities.
	Develop and implement community-based management initiatives (e.g., <i>Stewardship Act</i> , clam boards).
	Support the development of regional management boards.
	Complete and implement Delgamuukw consultation guidelines with respect to fisheries issues.
	Enhance stakeholder involvement in decision-making processes (e.g. Sport Fish Advisory Board, freshwater fisheries consultation).
Maintain an effective organization by continuing to enhance staff skills, knowledge and abilities.	Support staff training and professional development.
	Develop a workplace that provides opportunities for all, including persons with disabilities, aboriginal persons, visible minorities and women.

Performance Measures for Goal 4

- ▲ Reduced duplication and overlap in service delivery among various levels of government.
- ▲ Increased regional participation in managing the fisheries resource.
- ▲ Increased responsiveness and greater interaction between *BC Fisheries* and First Nations, coastal and rural communities, industry, environmental groups, and municipal and federal governments through an interactive *BC Fisheries* website.
- ▲ Initial entry of provincial data to the Fisheries Project Registry completed.

Link to Government Priorities

Government has identified a number of key priorities that in turn provide direction for, and shape the business of government ministries. The provincial government specified the following priorities:

Government Priority	Relevant Ministry Goal Statement	Clarifying Remarks
Education	Sound and informed fisheries management decisions.	Provides materials and opportunities for public education with regard to resource stewardship, cultural awareness and resource allocation.
	Developed and diversified commercial, aquaculture, seafood processing and recreational fisheries.	Provides materials and support for industry through data, workshops and extension services and public material on the importance of sustainable fisheries.
Health Care	Conservation of native fish populations and their habitats.	Ensures clean and plentiful surface waters, safeguards biodiversity and ecosystems for the health and well-being of future generations.
	Developed and diversified commercial, aquaculture, seafood processing and recreational fisheries.	Ensures consumers have access to high-quality seafood products and are aware of health benefits derived from those products.
Family and Communities	Developed and diversified commercial, aquaculture, seafood processing and recreational fisheries.	Maintains, diversifies and develops harvesting, processing, aquaculture and sport fishing opportunities in rural communities.
	Prosperous communities in rural areas supported by commercial, aquaculture, seafood processing and recreational fisheries.	Focuses activities and provides economic opportunities in coastal communities and rural areas dependent on fish.

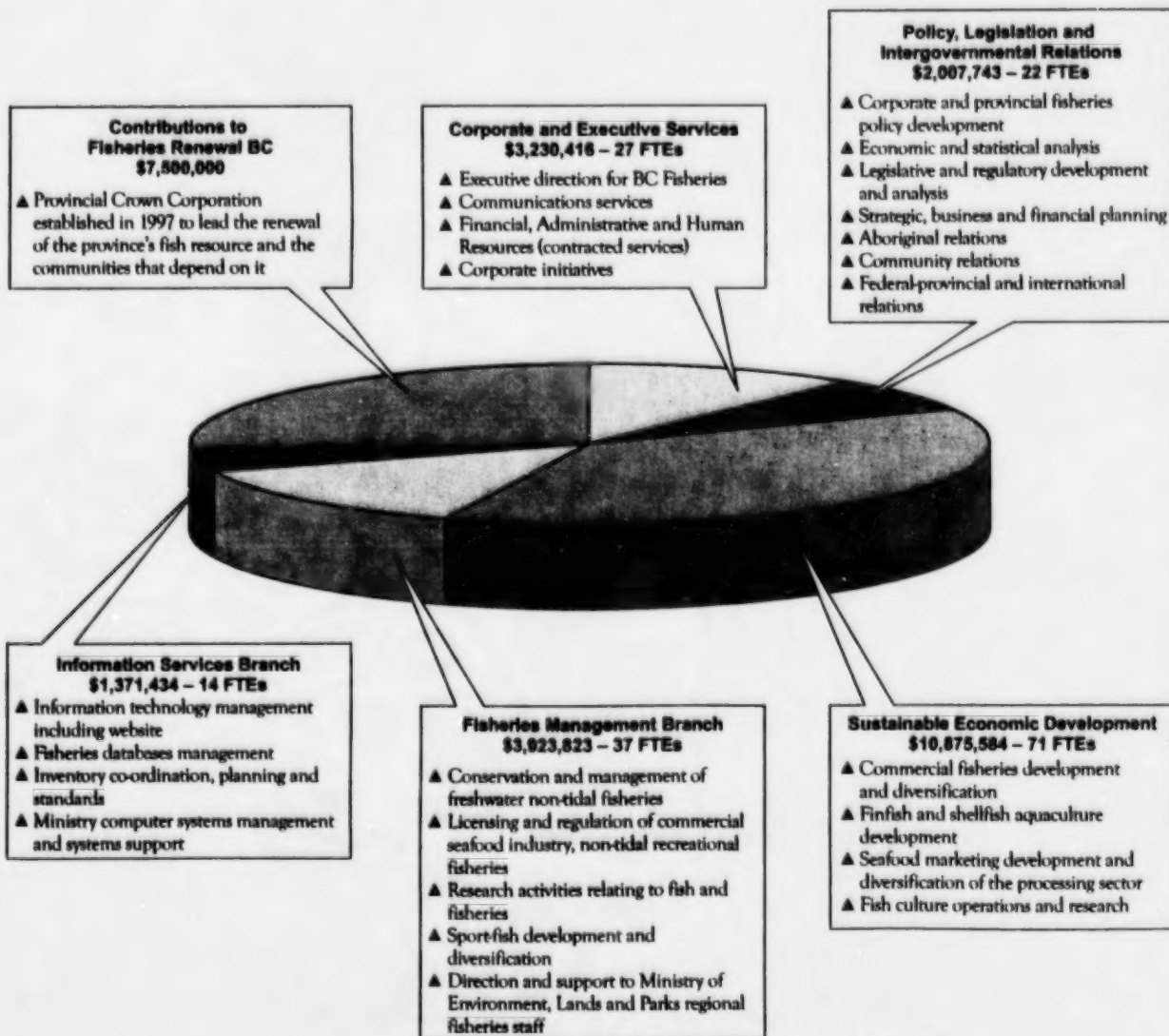
Government Priority	Relevant Ministry Goal Statement	Clarifying Remarks
Stronger Economy for B.C.	Developed and diversified commercial, aquaculture, seafood processing and recreational fisheries.	Encourages development and diversification of fisheries, creating job opportunities and economic development through major initiatives: ▲ Salmon Aquaculture Policy Implementation ▲ Shellfish Development Initiative ▲ Inland Sport-fish Development Initiative
Environment	Conservation of native fish populations and their habitats.	Safeguarding biodiversity and ecosystems to ensure a sustainable resource.

Resource Linkages

BC Fisheries

PROGRAM EXPENDITURES FOR 2000/01

TOTAL BUDGET - \$28,909,000 and 171 FTEs



BC Fisheries Offices

Minister's Office

Minister of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
Parliament Buildings, Room 346
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2
Phone 250-356-2735
Fax 250-387-1522

Licensing and Inspection

Courtenay Access Centre
2500 Cliffe Ave
Courtenay, BC V9N 5M6
Phone 250-897-7540
Fax 250-334-1410

Vancouver Office

Ste 2000 - 300 W Georgia St
Vancouver, BC V6B 6E1
Phone 604-666-3998
Fax 604-666-3977

Fraser Valley Trout Hatchery

34345 Vye Rd
Abbotsford, BC V2S 7P6
Phone 604-852-5388
Fax 604-852-5420

Kootenay Trout Hatchery

Fort Steele, BC V0B 1N0
Phone 250-429-3214
Fax 250-429-3202

Prince Rupert

201 - 3rd Ave West
Prince Rupert, BC V8J 1N2
Phone 250-624-7521
Fax 250-624-7421

Victoria Headquarters

780 Blanshard Street
Victoria, BC V8W 2H1
Phone 356-2735
Fax 250-387-1522

Ministry of Fisheries UBC Office

2204 Main Mall UBC
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z4
Phone 604-660-1849
Fax 604-660-1849

Summerland Trout Hatchery

Site 11 Comp 8 RR 1
Summerland, BC V0H 1Z0
Phone 250-494-0491
Fax 250-494-3046

Vancouver Island Hatchery

1080 Wharnccliffe Rd
Duncan, BC V9L 2K7
Phone 250-746-1425
Fax 250-746-7163

Clearwater Trout Hatchery

40 Old N. Thompson Hwy E
PO Box 4172 RR 2
Clearwater, BC V0E 1N0
Phone 250-674-2580
Fax 250-674-3572